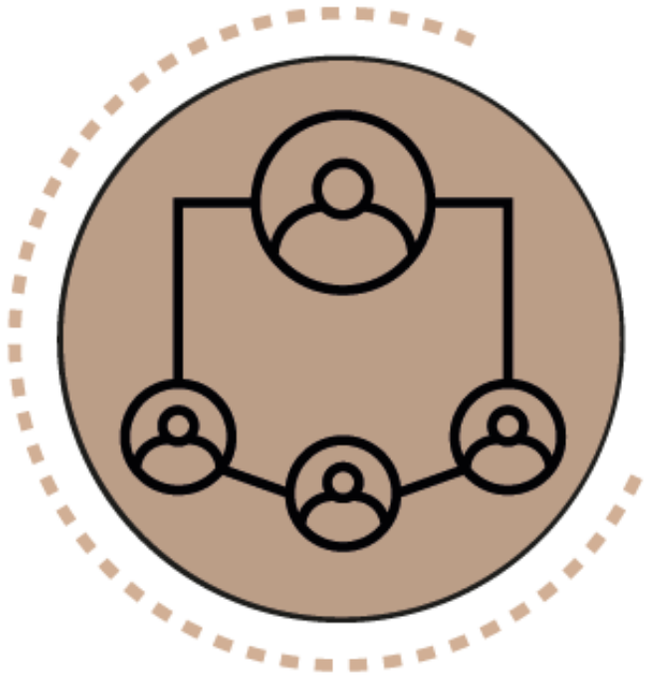
Webinar Series on
Stakeholder Involvement
related to **Nuclear Power**

IAEA



#10

Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

Use CHAT for questions at any time

This will be an interactive webinar.

We'll have a live audience Q&A session at the end of the presentation.

BUT you can **type your questions at any time** into the CHAT panel.

You can also use the CHAT panel to let us know if you're having any technical problems.

#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

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#1 Basics of Stakeholder Involvement
#2 Public Surveys
#3 Public Information Centres
#4 Social Media
#5 Messaging, Storytelling, Plain Language
#6 Media Relations
#7 Crisis, Risk & Emergency Communication
#8 Design & Tools for Engagement
#9 Stakeholder Involvement in New Nuclear Power

www.iaea.org/si-webinars

#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

IAEA

Today's Speakers

Pam Gorman Prochaska,
Xcel Energy, USA

Rob Whittleston,
National Nuclear Laboratory, UK

Gaston Meskens,
SCK•CEN, Belgium

Franc Bogovič,
European Parliament,
Slovenia

#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

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Let's interact

Where do you work?

- Government
- Regulator
- Operator
- NEPIO: Nuclear Energy Programme Implementing Organization
- Technical Support Organization
- NGO
- Academia
- Research Institution
- International Organization
- Media
- Private Sector-non-nuclear
- Nuclear Advocate/Independent Advocate
- Other
- I prefer not to say

#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

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Today's Speakers

Pamela Gorman Prochaska

Director of Nuclear Policy and Strategy for Xcel Energy. Pam began her career with Xcel Energy over 32 years ago in the operations department of the Prairie Island nuclear plant. After 10 years in operations she spent time in various plant positions including project management, regulatory, communications and training.

She then moved to the operations side of the company and was the Community and Government Relations Manager for Southeast Minnesota. About five years ago Pam came back to nuclear in her current role where she interfaces with governmental and industry organizations at all levels that enact, implement or influence policies that impact Xcel Energy's nuclear power plants and used nuclear fuel storage.

Pam is a graduate of the University of Minnesota- Duluth where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Secondary Math Education.

Xcel Energy®

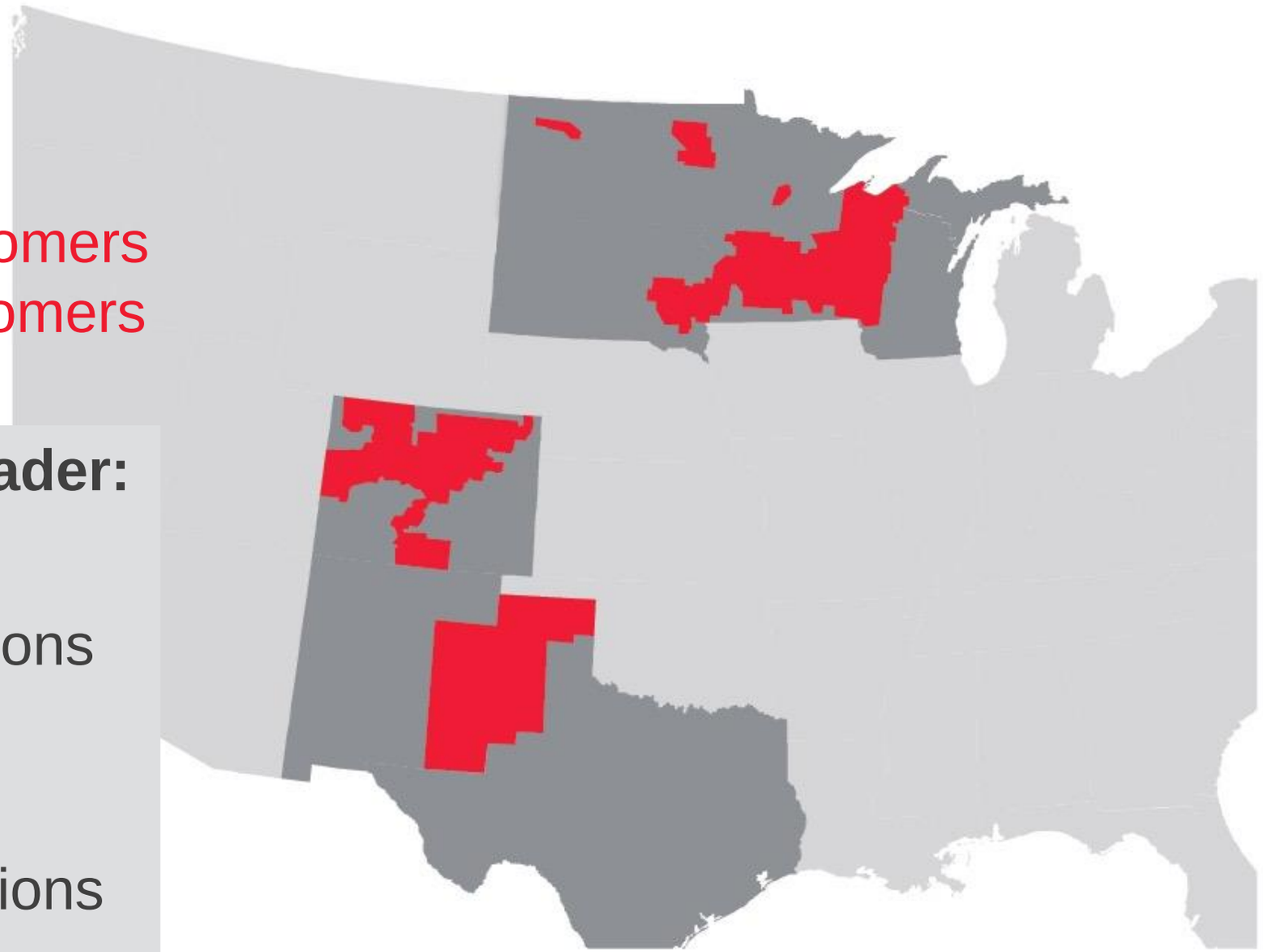
Stakeholder Outreach

Pamela **Gorman** Prochaska
Director, Nuclear Policy & Strategy

Xcel Energy

Serving eight states

- 3.6 million electricity customers
- 2 million natural gas customers



Nationally recognized leader:

- Wind energy leader
- Carbon emission reductions and reporting
- Innovative technology
- Excellent nuclear operations

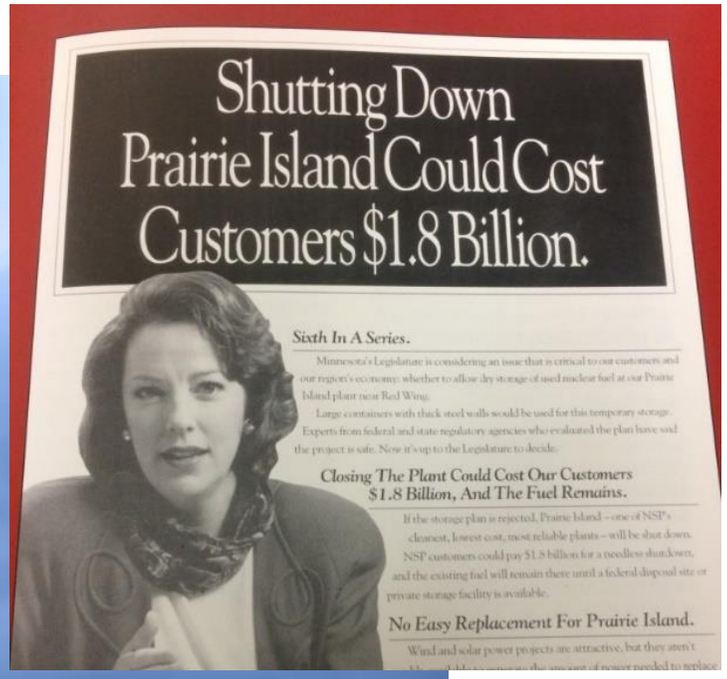
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

Location:	Monticello, Minn.
Jobs:	Over 400
Capacity:	671 MWe
Generation:	5.6 GWh
Built:	1971
License:	2030

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant

Location:	Near Red Wing, Minn.
Jobs:	Over 500
Capacity:	1,150 MWe
Generation:	9 GWh
Built:	1973 (Unit 1); 1974 (Unit 2)
License:	2033 (Unit 1); 2034 (Unit 2)

1994 – Public Policy Debate



What did we learn?

- Define the decision makers
  Who they are and best ways to engage. Could be different for different audiences.
- Communicate. Communicate. Communicate.
  Seek feedback and adjust accordingly.
- Nothing can replace seeing for yourself
  Plant tours and models help demystify nuclear. Virtual tours. Tabletop exercises.
- Build trust and relationships
  Do what you say you will. Be respectful even when you disagree. Regular contact.
- Don’t give up!

Build Positive Relationships

Employees

Public

Host Communities

Congress

Regulators – Commissioners and Staff

OR

DOE

Media

Suppliers

Administration

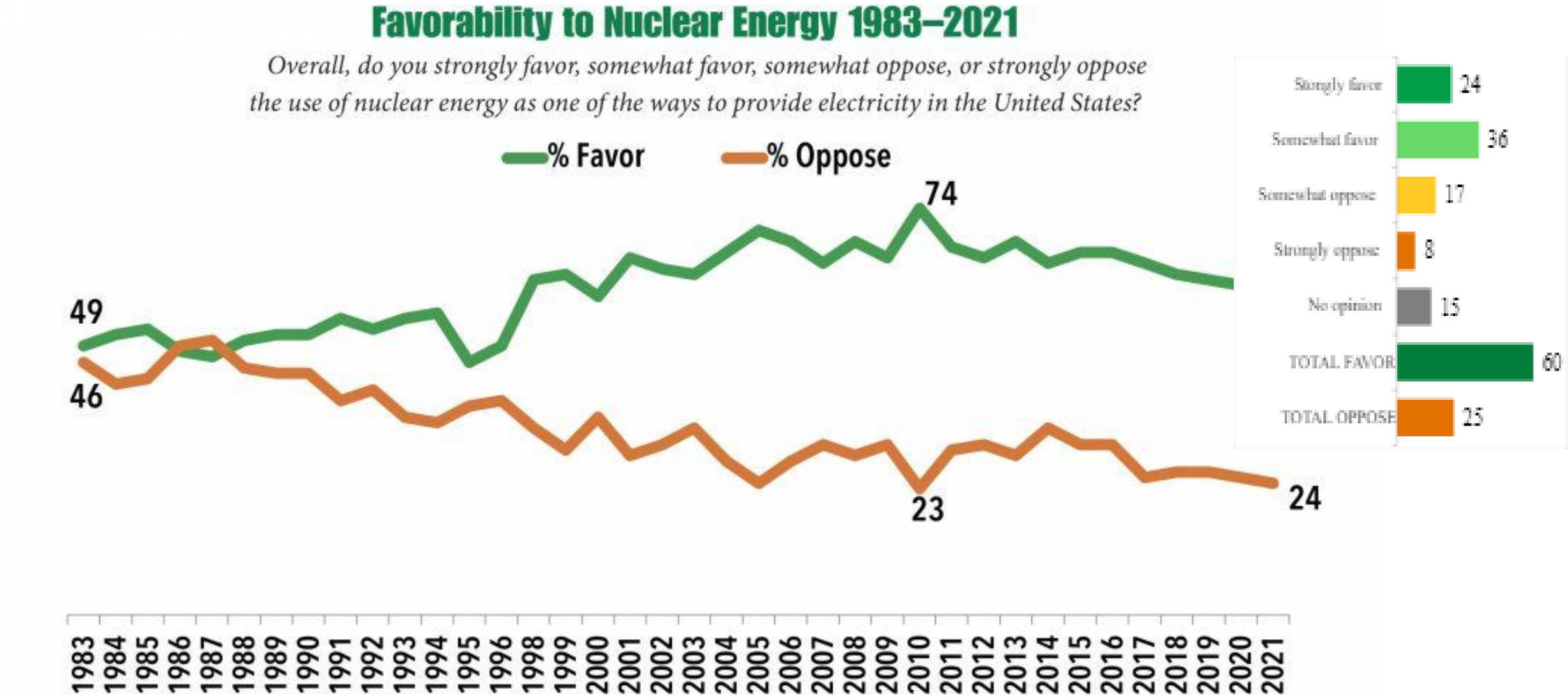
State Utility Commissions and staff

State Legislators

Find the WIN for all

Safe and Reliable operation, Carbon-free, Competitive, Grid Stability, Fuel Diversity, Community Health, Vitality, Jobs and Taxes

Public Support for Nuclear Power



- America Nuclear Society poll conducted by Bisconti Research

DO

Highlight benefits rather than dismiss risks

- Celebrate the decades of low-cost, reliable, clean electricity nuclear has provided.
- Nuclear is one of the largest sources of clean energy, providing 20% of US electricity, 80% in France, and over 50% in many other countries.
- The United Nations and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have concluded that nuclear energy will be a key technology that we will need for the fight against climate change.
- Emphasize we need a diverse portfolio of technologies, including solar, wind, and nuclear to ensure a reliable and safe clean-energy future.

Information provided by Breakthrough Institute Oct. 2021 report

DON’T

- Attack renewable energy to promote nuclear energy.
- Argue about death counts from past accidents.
- Argue that radiation is beneficial or omnipresent.
- Argue about whether there should be thresholds for low-level radiation exposure.
- Compare nuclear’s risk with those of familiar activities.

Information provided by Breakthrough Institute Oct. 2021 report

Questions to consider

Do your decision makers know and understand your issues?

Are you fostering good relationships with them?

What are you doing to get your messages out?

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Today's Speakers

Rob Whittleston

As Director for International Engagement, Security and Non-Proliferation at the UK's National Nuclear Laboratory, he is responsible for maintaining NNL's place as a world leading national institution, and for ensuring NNL can play its vital role enabling the peaceful use of nuclear materials and technology.

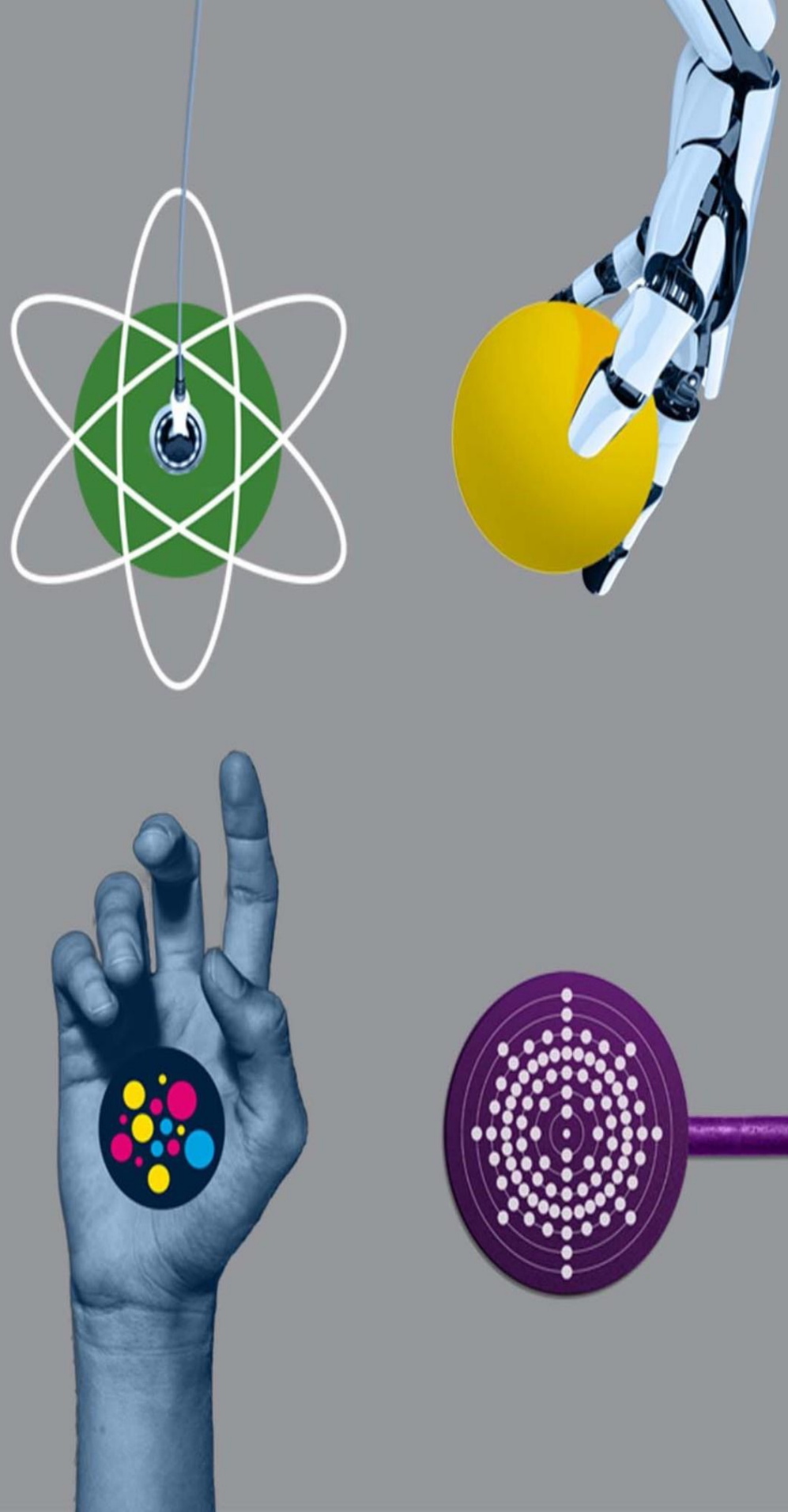
Originally trained as earth system scientist, Rob is passionate about the role nuclear technology has to play in protecting both our society and planet.

He has held a variety of internationally facing R&D management roles spanning the nuclear fuel cycle, including at Hitachi, and the UK Nuclear Decommissioning Authority's Radioactive Waste Management Directorate. He has previously worked in central government, leading policy development in the rail sector.

‘Fission Chips’ and the role of trusted professions

Engaging with policy and decision makers

NATIONAL NUCLEAR LABORATORY



NATIONAL NUCLEAR LABORATORY

NUCLEAR SCIENCE TO BENEFIT SOCIETY

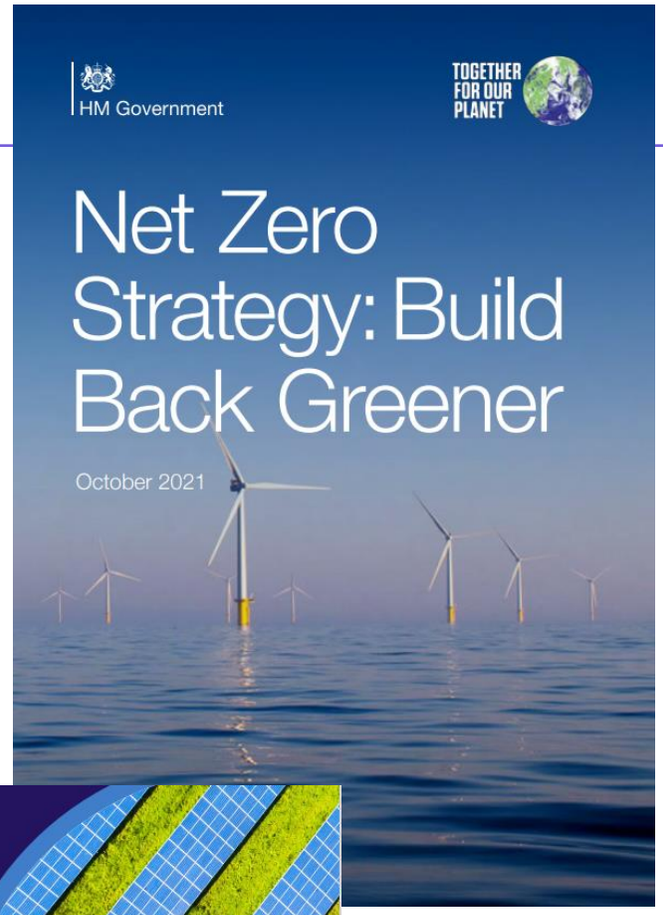
AUTUMN 2021

UK context

- In the UK, nuclear is a sector with considerable heritage, embedded across the country

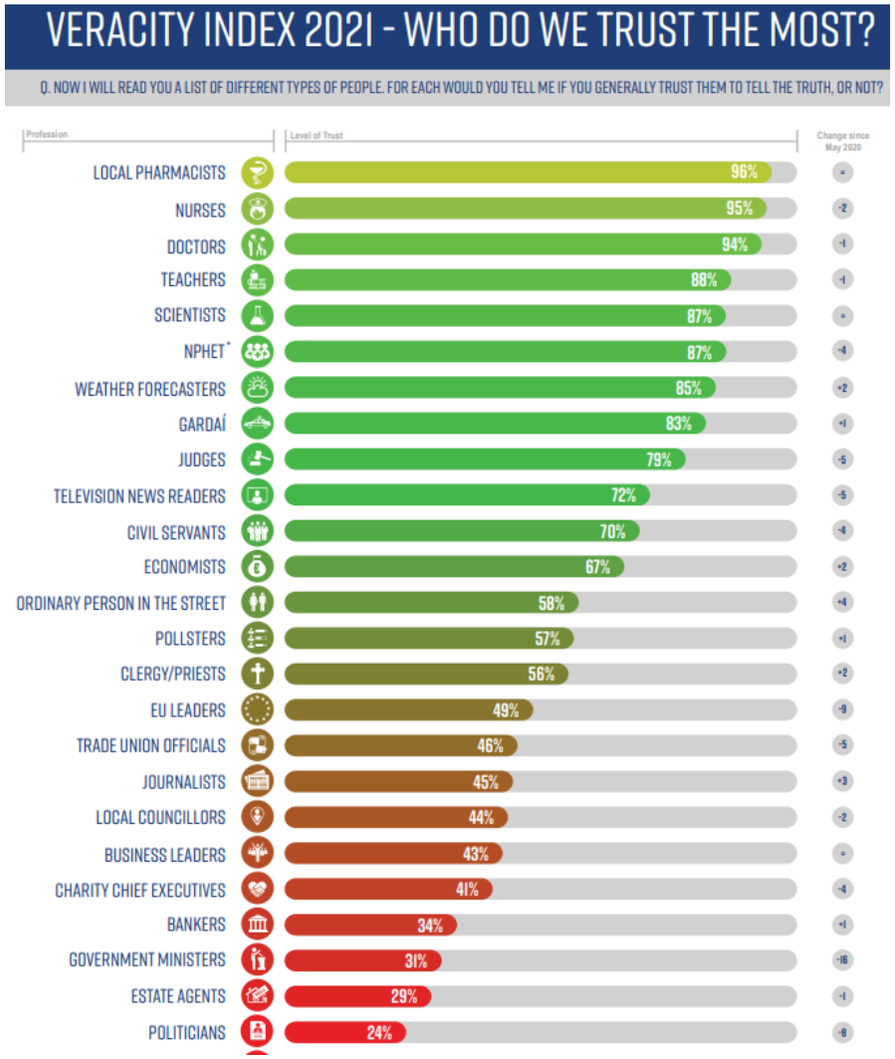
- It is often high on the public agenda, touching many aspects of UK Government policy

- It will continue to play a key role, but challenges remain



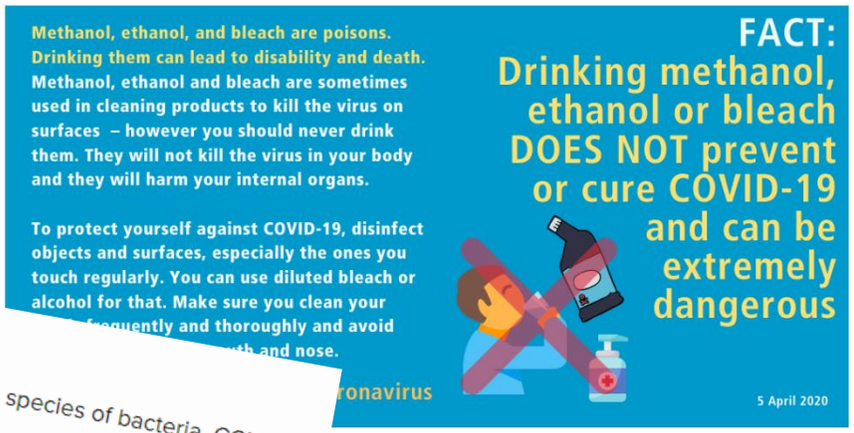
Trusted professions play a vital role

- In an era of fake news, peer reviewed, scientific evidence and advice is more vital than ever to inform policy and decision making
- Scientists are a highly trusted profession
- This has potentially life saving consequences
- But information must be delivered in an accessible way



26. Drinking alcohol reduces the risk of infection

The WHO have released a response to the series of myths surrounding alcohol and COVID-19. They explain that while alcohol can disinfect the skin, it does not have this effect inside the body.



15. Garlic protects against coronaviruses

Some research suggests that garlic may slow the growth of some species of bacteria. COVID-19 results from a virus, not bacteria.

There is no evidence that garlic can protect people from COVID-19.

NATIONAL NUCLEAR LABORATORY

Fission Chips – a nuclear knowledge bite series

- A long term approach to improving engagement
- A growing network of officials and decision makers, across a wide range of UK Government departments
- Providing a ‘safe environment’ for these officials to ask internationally renowned experts questions relating to any aspects of nuclear
- No prior knowledge assumed
- Most importantly, the topics of discussion are **set by the participants themselves**

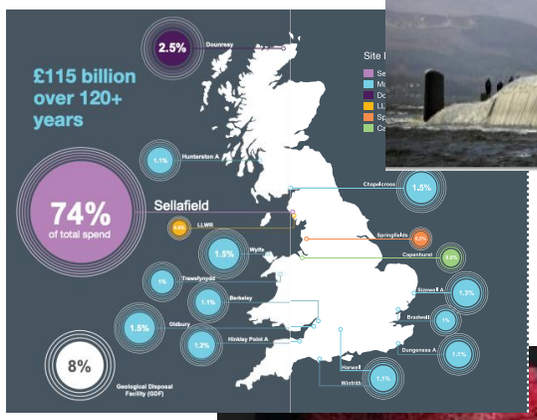
NATIONAL NUCLEAR LABORATORY

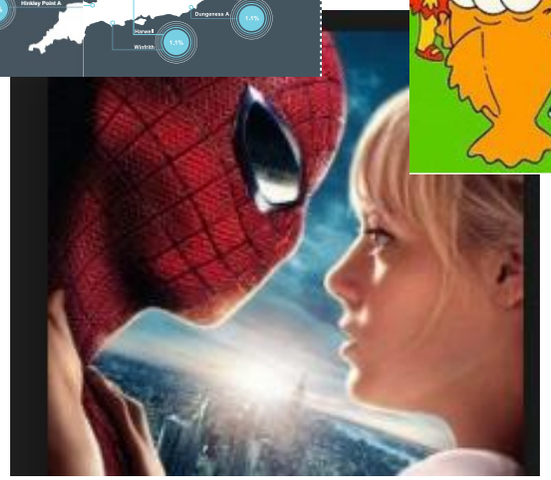
Delivered to date

- Three briefings have been held, covering a range of topics:
  - What is the UK nuclear industry?
  - Is nuclear safe?
  - The Retention of the UK's Independent Nuclear Deterrent – Lessons in Communicating & Influencing
  - The UK Defense Nuclear Enterprise
  - The role of nuclear and net zero: challenges and opportunities
  - Nuclear innovation for climate
  - The perception of risk

- Reaching over 200 officials across 18 UK government departments and agencies

- Created links between departments e.g. energy policy and international development





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Key takeaways

- Scientific and technical advice is essential to inform policy and decision making – but it must be accessible
- Assume no prior knowledge, and do not wait to be told – they welcome your support
- Clear, consistent messaging is key – the sector speaking with a single voice
- Work with all policy and decision makers with an interest in nuclear – think outside the box
- Interests and understanding of policy and decision makers reflect those in broader society – they are members of the public too!

Nuclear will play an important role for a long time…

… so do not forget the policy and decision makers of the future!

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About us Customer Solutions Innov

NEWS

NNL scientists inspire next generation across Cumbria

Representatives from the UK's national laboratory for nuclear fission share importance of the sector's work to combat climate change, following Glasgow climate conference COP26

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IAEA

Today's Speakers

Gaston Meskens

Works with the Science and Technology Studies group of the Belgian Nuclear Research Centre SCK•CEN and with the Centre for Ethics and Value Inquiry of the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy of the University of Ghent. He has over 20 years of experience in participative and transdisciplinary research related to the ethics of governance of issues such as sustainable development, energy, climate change and radioactive waste management. He is member of the steering committee of the Constituency of Research-oriented Independent Non-Governmental Organisations towards the UNFCCC (the constituency that represents the global scientific world in the United Nations Climate Change negotiation process) and was chair of the constituency from 2016 to 2018.

Previously, he participated as invited expert in Belgian parliamentary and public hearings on the ethics of risk-inherent technology governance, in several Technical Committees of the IAEA and of the OECD and in UN missions in the frame of sustainable development. At SCK•CEN Gaston is now working as researcher, writer, lecturer and mediator of dialogue on ethics in relation to science, technology and democratic decision making. He holds master degrees in theoretical physics and nuclear engineering from the University of Ghent in Belgium.

Nuclear energy governance

&

The ethical motivation for participative forms of knowledge generation and decision making

IAEA Webinar #10
Engaging with policy and decision makers,
8 December 2021

sck cen
Academy

Gaston Meskens
Science & Technology Studies Unit, SCK•CEN
Centre for Ethics and Value Inquiry, University of Ghent
gaston.meskens@sckcen.be

The ethical motivation for participative forms of knowledge generation and decision making

- IAEA Webinar #10 topic

  "… the ways in which the professional and technical community **can** engage with policy and decision makers. How **can** energy and nuclear experts, economists, utilities, industry, academics and potential technology suppliers support well-informed decision making regarding nuclear power? What works? What doesn't work so well? …"

- IAEA 19th INPRO Dialogue Forum

  "… The importance of Public Acceptance …"

The bigger (critical) picture

Forms

The bigger (critical) picture

Forms

- Our current forms of political decision making, inherited from modernity, are not designed for engagement with the public or civil society

↗ democracy via party politics and elections

↘ international negotiations based on diplomacy and state sovereignty

→ public participation seen as ‘additional’ or ‘corrective’ to these forms

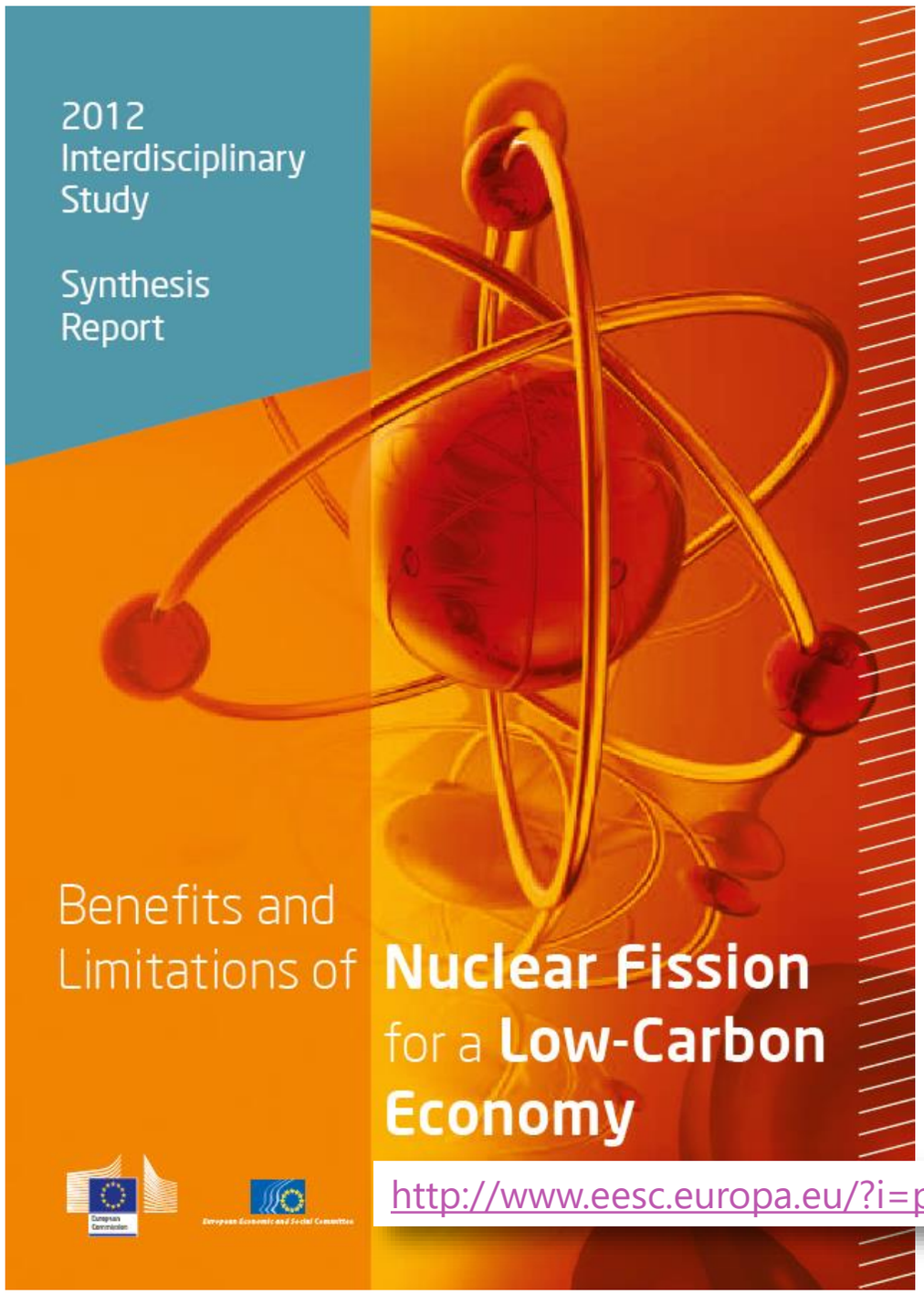
soft law the **Aarhus Convention** on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

EC “… Member States shall ensure that the public is given early and effective opportunities to participate … “ (original 2003/35/EC Directive)

The bigger (critical) picture

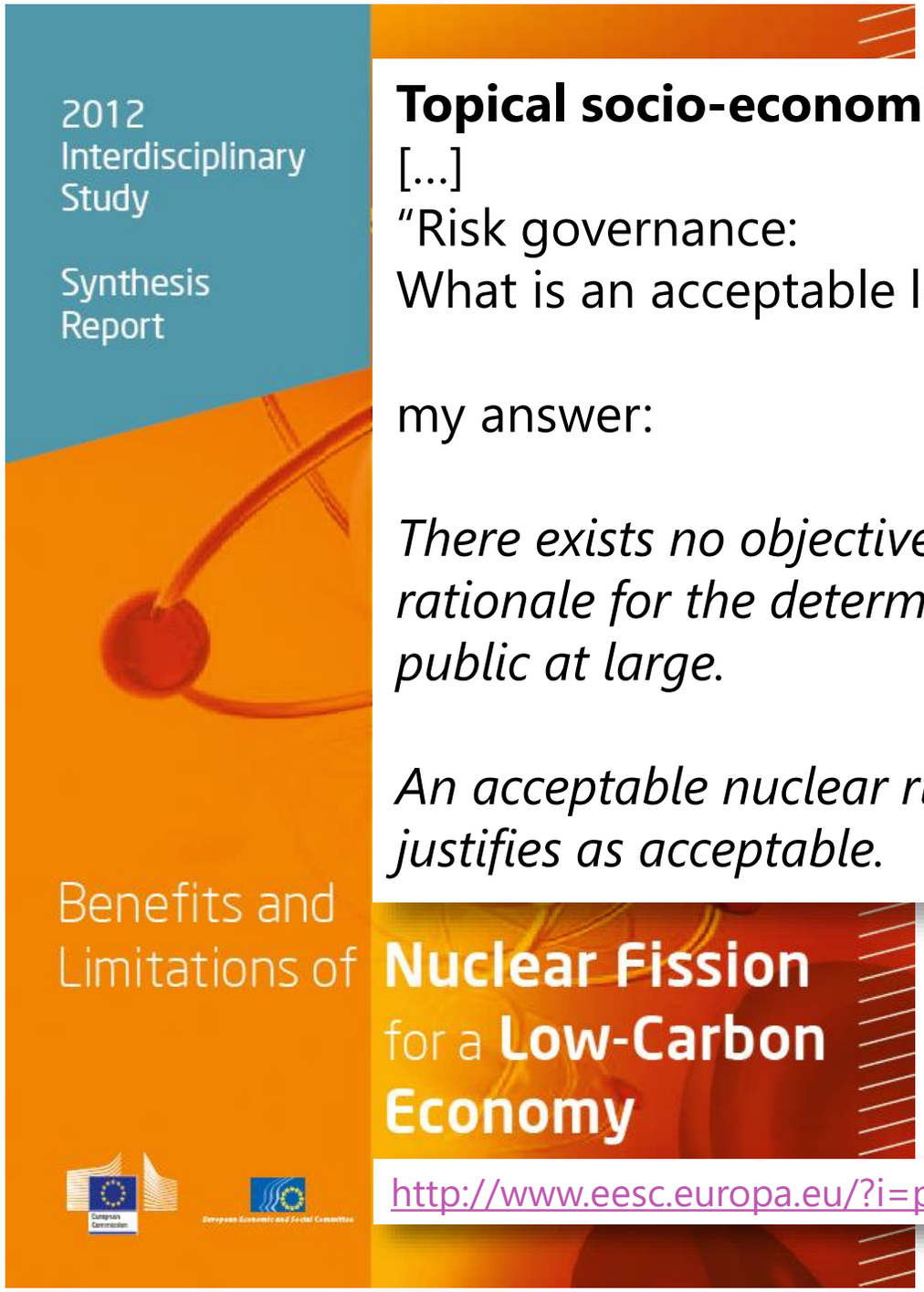
Mindsets

The bigger (critical) picture
Mindsets



http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-symposium-on-nuclear-fission-papers

The bigger (critical) picture
Mindsets



Topical socio-economic reports / expert viewpoints
[…]
"Risk governance:
What is an acceptable level of (nuclear) risk for the public at large?"

my answer:

There exists no objective (scientific, economic, social, political or philosophical) rationale for the determination of the acceptable level of nuclear risk for the public at large.

An acceptable nuclear risk is simply a risk that an informed democratic society justifies as acceptable.

http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-symposium-on-nuclear-fission-papers

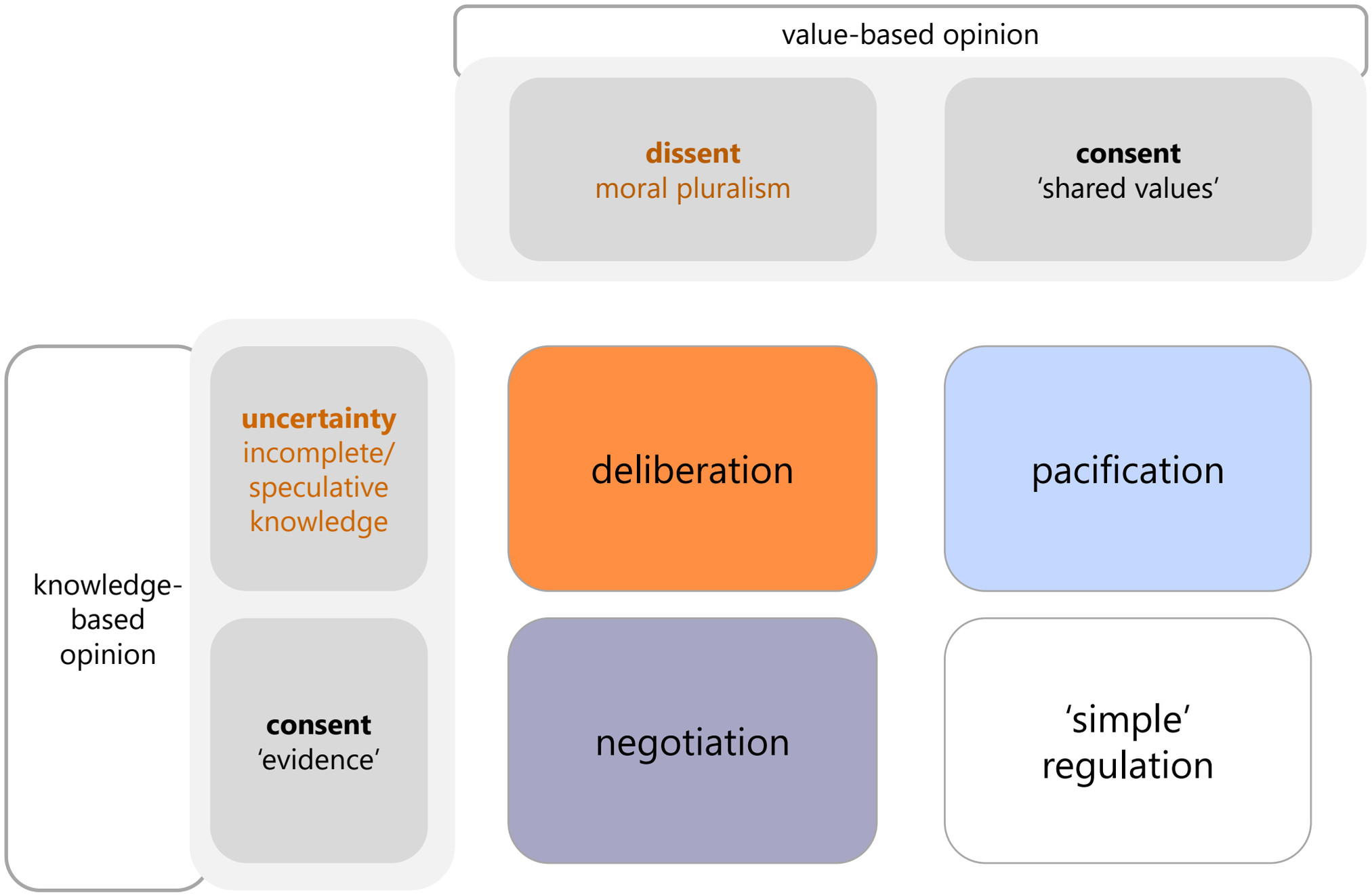
The bigger (critical) picture
Mindsets

- risk justification

- Technocracy is still among us

  it may have good intentions,
  it doesn't rule as such,
  but it functions at the service of politics.

Nuclear energy governance is a ‘complex social problem’ troubled by knowledge related uncertainty and moral pluralism



Nuclear energy governance is a ‘complex social problem’ troubled by knowledge related uncertainty and moral pluralism

value-based opinion

dissent
moral pluralism

consent
‘shared values’

knowledge-based opinion

uncertainty
incomplete/ speculative knowledge

consent
‘evidence’

Nuclear energy governance is a ‘complex social problem’ troubled by knowledge related uncertainty and moral pluralism

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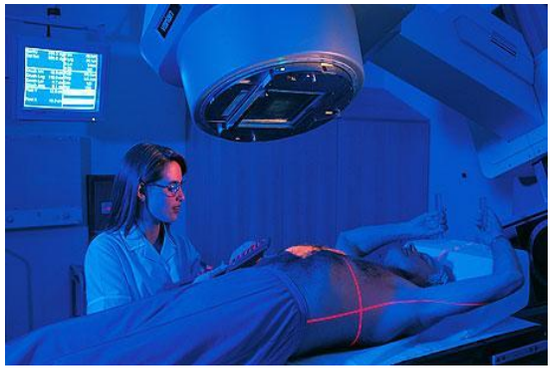


Societal trust in the assessment of what is an acceptable risk for society should be generated ‘by method instead of proof’

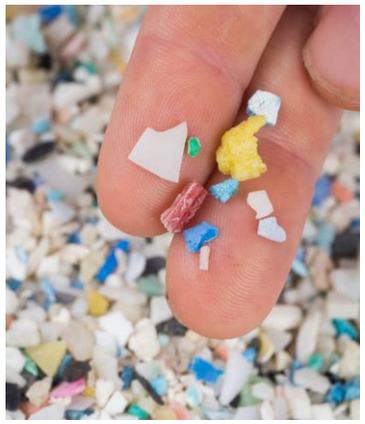
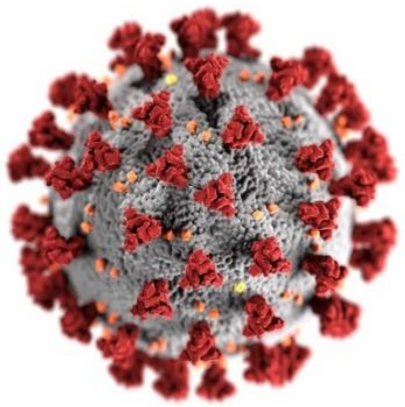
- No scientific or political authority can determine alone what would be an acceptable risk for society.
- Good science and engineering, open and transparent communication and the ‘promises’ of a responsible safety and security culture are necessary conditions but can never generate societal trust in themselves.
- ↘ The reason is that there will always be **essential factors beyond full control** (nature, time, human error, misuse of technology), which implies that one always has to deal with incomplete and speculative knowledge and value pluralism (also in post-accident conditions).
- This simply means that one can never ‘prove’ with scientific, technical or economic arguments that nuclear is an acceptable energy technology (but neither that it is not)

→ There is a need for governance methods that could **generate trust by their very method**, instead of by ‘proofs’ or ‘a competition of promises’.

A special challenge for science in the ‘risk society’

- Confronted with the need to deal with incomplete and speculative knowledge and value pluralism in providing policy advice on issues of social well-being, **the challenge of science** is not the production of credible proofs, it **is the construction of credible hypotheses**.






Inspiration from philosophy & science studies

- John Dewey

  "… democracy is **unlocking the social intelligence of the people**…"

- Noam Chomsky

  > the importance of **moral justification of authority**

- The idea of **post-normal science**, relying on an 'extended peer community' consisting of all those with a stake in the dialogue on the issue

- The idea of **transdisciplinary knowledge** as a synergy of knowledges from natural and social sciences, the humanities and the arts and lay and indigenous knowledge

The ethical motivation for participative forms of knowledge generation and decision making put in practice

The ethical motivation for participative forms of knowledge generation and decision making put in practice

There is a need for new governance methods that would allow	
the recognition of uncertainty and moral pluralism	**transdisciplinarity** and **focus on ethics** in education & training **transdisciplinarity** and **participation** in scientific research
informed consent	**public participation** and **deliberation** in political decision making
precaution and confrontation of rationales	
accountability to next generations	

- In its role of governance advisor and facilitator, the IAEA could promote these governance methods and care for transdisciplinarity and a focus on ethics in its own education and training programmes.

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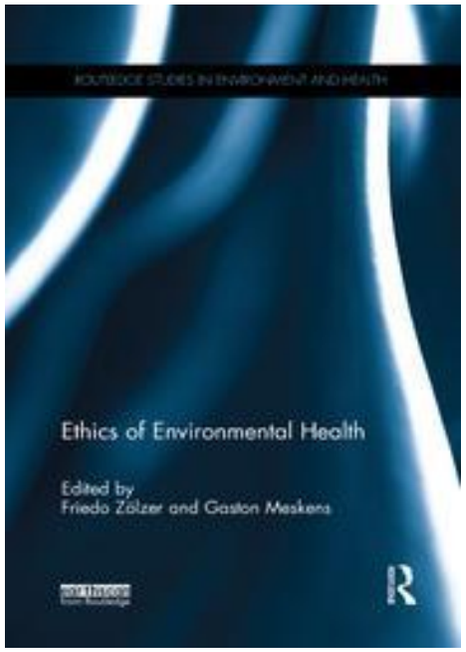

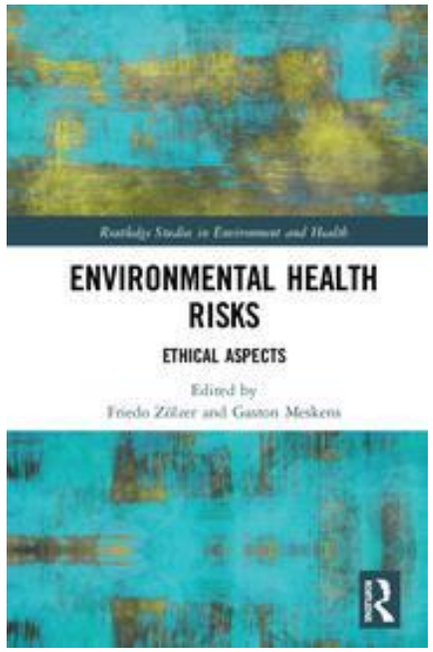

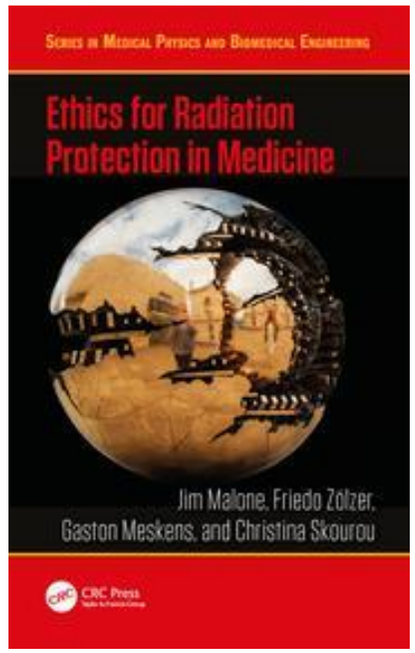

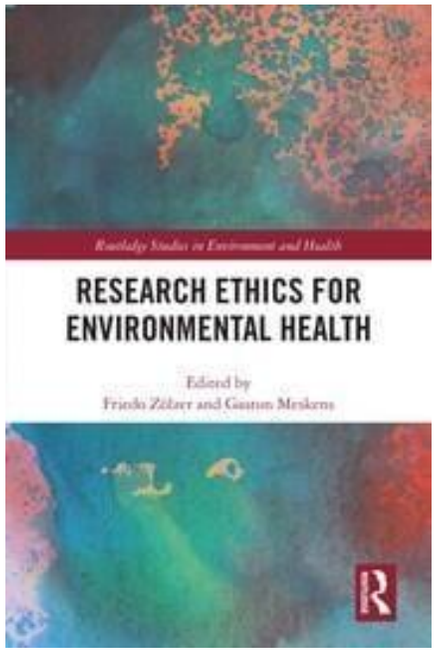

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SCK CEN
Studiecentrum voor Kernenergie
Centre d'Etude de l'Energie Nucléaire
Belgian Nuclear Research Centre

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#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

IAEA

Today's Speakers

Franc Bogovič

Held posts such as agricultural expert, agricultural trade entrepreneur, Mayor of Krško Municipality, member of Slovenian National Assembly and Minister of Agriculture and Environment in the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.

During his thirteen-year term of office as a mayor of Krško Municipality, he played a significant role in improving the relationships between the municipality and the state with the Krško Nuclear Plant, and establishing a permanent nuclear waste repository. From 2004 he was also the vice president of the Association of European municipalities with nuclear facilities, Group of European Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities).

Bogovič is currently serving his second term as a Member of the European Parliament, and is mostly engaged in topics related to agriculture, rural and regional development, cohesion policy, as well as energy.
Bogovič also leads the Smart Villages initiative in the European Parliament and in Slovenia.

Franc BOGOVIČ
Poslanec Evropskega parlamenta
Member of the European Parliament

Energy site - Krško

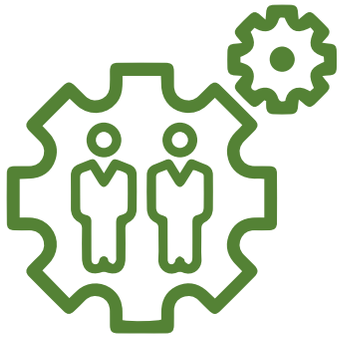
Region generates more than 40% of all Slovenian energy production

- GEN energija
- GEN-I
- Nuclear power plant Krško
- Hydro power plant on the Sava river
- Thermal power plant Brestanica
- Small solar power plant

Social acceptability of the Krško NPP in the local environment

Confidence in the **competence and professionalism** of the leading management in the Krško NPP

NEK employees are the best **ambassadors**



Safe operation of the Krško NPP – regular investments and modernizations

Investing in **local community development**

Long-term solution for RAW management; spent nuclear fuel is not a waste, recycling

Franc BOGOVIČ
Poslanec Evropskega parlamenta
Member of the European Parliament

epp group in the european parliament

SLS

What was important for me when I became the mayor of Krško

- Create my own opinion, build trust with people who manage Nuclear Power Plant
- Get to know the nuclear facility
- GMF Vice President
- Recognize nuclear energy as a development opportunity
- Active role in energy development

The role of nuclear energy in the transition to a low-carbon society

Climate change requires the decarbonisation of our society

Increasing of electricity consumption

Increasing the share of electricity from renewables and electricity from nuclear power plants

Electromobility

Electric heat pumps

Hydrogen

Franc BOGOVIČ
Poslanec Evropskega parlamenta
Member of the European Parliament

How to achieve social acceptability for new nuclear facilities

- **Proactive, transparent communication** between politics and the profession
- Debates based on **facts, figures, not ideology** or political belief
- Nuclear power plants as a **solution to the transition to a low carbon society**
- Renewal of the **European nuclear industry**
- Find permanent solutions in the field of RAW management

Franc BOGOVIČ
Poslanec Evropskega parlamenta
Member of the European Parliament

#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

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Q&A

Pam Gorman Prochaska,
Xcel Energy, USA

Rob Whittleston,
National Nuclear Laboratory, UK

Gaston Meskens,
SCK•CEN, Belgium

Franc Bogovič,
European Parliament,
Slovenia

#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

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Upcoming Webinars

#11

Talking about Nuclear Power & Climate Change

Together for a Clean Energy Future

#12

Communicating about Nuclear Waste

Clarifying Waste Options and Opportunities

#10 Engaging with Policy & Decision Makers

Knowledgeable and Interested Leaders

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Thank you !

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